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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/933,633	08/20/2001	Gnanaprakasam Pandian	CIS0076US	6410

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EXAMINER	
JUNTIMA, NITTAYA	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2616	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	02/05/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/933,633	PANDIAN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nittaya Juntima	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *29 December 2006*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-6,8-15,17-18,21* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *2,7,16,19,20,22 and 23* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☒ Claim(s) *9,14,15,17,18 and 21* is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-6 and 8* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *10-13* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *01 July 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on 12/29/06.

2. Claims 2, 7, 16, 19-20, and 22-23 were cancelled.

3. Claims 9, 14-15, 17-18, and 21 are allowed.

4. The indicated allowability of claims 2 and 4 in the Office Action dated 8/25/06 is withdrawn in view of different interpretation of the previously applied reference.

5. Claim 1 is presently rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

6. Claims 3-6, and 8 are presently rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

7. Claims 10-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Objections

8. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- in claim 4, lines 9, "receiving" should be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Liang (US 5,781,529).

Regarding claim 1, Liang teach a method comprising:

A first network switch (a node that receives the DTL shown in Fig. 4 and has the same node ID as that indicated in ELEMENT#2 of the DTL) receiving a message (the CALL SETUP message, Fig. 3) at one (input port) of a plurality of interfaces, wherein the message comprises data (completed ELEMENT#1 – input slot ID, input link, and VPI/VCI fields filled with appropriate values) (col. 5, lines 66-col. 6, lines 1-58, col. 7, lines 48-66 and Fig. 5).

The first network switch generating first data (completed ELEMENT#1 and completed ELEMENT#2) as a function of both the data (completed ELEMENT#1) and first interface identifier data (completed ELEMENT#2), wherein the first interface identifier data corresponds to the one of the plurality of interfaces (completed ELEMENT#2 contains input slot ID value inserted by the receiving node) and wherein generating the first data comprises concatenating the first interface identifier data with the data (Figs. 4 and 5, col. 6, lines 1-8, and col. 7, lines 48-66 and col. 10, lines 42-46).

The first network switch replacing the data in the message (the CALL SETUP message) with the first data (completed ELEMENT#1 and completed ELEMENT#2) thereby creating a first modified message (the fields in ELEMENT#1 and ELEMENT#2 have now been filled with appropriate values and the structure of the DTL in Fig. 4 is not changed, col. 7, lines 48-66).

The first network switch outputting the first modified message at another (output port) of the plurality of interfaces to the first network switch (col. 7, lines 63-66).

A second network switch (a node that receives the DTL shown in Fig. 4 and has the same node ID as that indicated in ELEMENT#3 of the DTL) receiving the first modified message (the CALL SETUP message with completed ELEMENT#1 and completed ELEMENT#2) at one (input port) of a plurality of interfaces (col. 7, lines 48-66).

The second network switch generating second data (completed ELEMENT#1, completed ELEMENT#2, and completed ELEMENT#3) as a function of the first data (completed ELEMENT#1 and completed ELEMENT#2) and second interface identifier data (completed ELEMENT#3), wherein the second interface identifier data corresponds to the one of the plurality of interfaces (completed ELEMENT#3 contains input slot ID value inserted by the receiving node whose ID is the same as that indicated in ELEMENT#3) (col. 7, lines 48-66 and col. 10, lines 42-46).

The second network switch replacing the data in the message (the CALL SETUP message) with the second data (completed ELEMENT#1, completed ELEMENT#2, and completed ELEMENT#3) thereby creating a second modified message (the fields in ELEMENT#1, ELEMENT#2, and ELEMENT#3 have now been filled with appropriate values and the structure of the DTL in Fig. 4 is not changed, col. 7, lines 48-66).

The second network switch outputting the second modified message at another (output port) of the plurality of interfaces to the second network switch (col. 7, lines 63-66).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 3, 4, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liang et al. ("Liang") (USPN 5,781,529).

Regarding claims 3, 4, and 5, Liang teaches the first network switch creating a first SVC/allocating a portion of its data processing resources (VPI/VCI) for processing communication data, wherein the first SVC is created/the portion of its data processing resources is allocated in response to receiving the message (an incoming CALL SETUP message), and the second network switch creating a second SVC for processing communication data, wherein the second SVC is created in response to the second network switch receiving the first modified message. See col. 7, ll 56-66, col. 10, lines 42-46, see also col. 2, ll 49-57.

Liang fails to explicitly teach that the first/second network switch storing data relating to the first/second SVC / the allocated portion of its data processing resources into a memory location, wherein the memory location corresponds to the first/second data.

However, an official notice is taken that data relating to the first/second SVC/ the allocated portion of its data processing resources, e.g. a VPI/VCI, input port, and output port, are usually stored into a memory location of the node in order to keep track of the resources being allocated and the SVC being established.

Therefore, since the first/second SVC/the allocated portion of the switch's data processing resources, i.e. VPI/VCI, input port, and output port, are designated by a receiving node and correspond to the first/second data (completed ELEMENT#1, 2 / ELEMENT#1,2,3) (col. 7, ll 56-65), it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify the teaching of Liang to include that the first/second network switch storing data relating to the first/second SVC/ the allocated portion of its data processing resources into a memory location, wherein the memory location corresponds to the first/second data in order to keep track of the resource being allocated and the first/second SVC being established.

13. Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Liang et al. ("Liang") (USPN 5,781,529) in view of the admitted prior art (Background of the Invention section of the specification).

Regarding claim 6, Liang teaches that the message (the CALL SETUP message with Routing DTL information element, col. 7, ll 48-63) comprises call reference data (call reference, Fig. 3). However, Liang fails to explicitly teach the first network switch (a receiving node) copying the call reference data into a memory location which corresponds to the first data.

The admitted prior art teaches that each ATM switch (the first network switch) must copy a call reference (the call reference data) into a memory location which corresponds to the switch and SVC or VPI/VCI (specification, page 1, ll 15-page 2, ll 9).

Therefore, since the first data includes NODE ID of the first network switch (see rejection of claim 1), it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teaching of Liang to include the first network switch copying the call reference data into a memory location which corresponds to the first data. The suggestion/motivation to do so would have been to enable the first network switch to identify the corresponding SVC and allocated resource to be released when the call through the switch is to be terminated.

Regarding claim 8, Liang teaches that the first network switch (a node that receives the CALL SETUP message with Routing DTL information element, col. 7, ll 48-63)) must create a first SVC (VPI/VCI, col. 10, ll 42-52 and 56-63) for processing communication data transmitting between at least two end devices (originating and terminating DTEs, col. 4, ll 65-col. 5, ll 3. Liang further teaches call reference data (call reference, Fig. 3).

However, Liang does not teach the first network switch mapping the first SVC to the call reference data.

The admitted prior art teaches that each ATM switch (the first network switch) must map a SVC to a call reference (the call reference data) for SVC release as part of a call termination (specification, page 1, ll 15-page 2, ll 9).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teaching of Liang to include the first network switch mapping the first SVC to the call reference data as recited in the claim. The suggestion/motivation to do so would have been to enable the first network switch to identify the corresponding SVC and allocated resource to be released when the call through the switch is to be terminated.

Conclusion

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nittaya Juntima whose telephone number is 571-272-3120. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M - 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nittaya Juntima
January 25, 2007
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